

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's Office Action of September 6, 2007 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the abstract and claims, and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

the abstract is amended to be in proper form;

independent claims 1, 2 and 10 are amended to specify that the authentication code is generated by first applying a one-way function to the action/message and parameter/identifier and then encrypting the result. Support for these amendments can be found at paragraphs [5219]-[5262] of the present specification; and

dependent claims 3-9 and 11-15 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application.

Regarding Specification Objections

It is respectfully submitted that the amendment of the abstract provides the correction required by the Examiner.

Regarding 35 USC 102(e) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claims 1, 2 and 10, and claims 3-9 and 11-15 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed by Collins (US 7,095,855), for at least the following reasons.

In the present invention, as recited in amended independent claims 1, 2 and 10, the authentication code is made more secure by first applying a one-way function to the action and parameter and then encrypting the result to generate the code (see paragraphs [5219]-[5262] of the present specification).

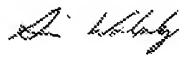
On the other hand, Collins specifically discloses that encryption processes are not preferred for the combination process 504 (see col. 9, lines 23-30), and in any case, does not

disclose or suggest to first apply a hash function and then encrypt the result, as required by amended independent claims 1, 2 and 10, and claims 3-9 and 11-15 dependent therefrom.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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